

Tribe Still Battles Mineral Rights

By Carol Salgren

Eastern Montana, scarce and disputed, is referred to by the *Indian* society magazine as "a large, open land of small-acre parcels, swelling to the horizon with yellow mountain grasses, rich river valleys lined with irrigated farms, low mountains, and scattered ridges daily with cedar and ponderosa pine—wooded plants covered with sagebrush, grasswood and sagebrush."

In the last few years, eastern Montana has been plagued with coal companies, suddenly battering landowners for purchase of land.

The Department of the Interior and the 35 major private public electric power suppliers launched a study called the Northern Coal Power Study in October of 1971. The effect of this study on landowners was pointed by "Anshelm."

"There were few persons in the affected region who were not already aware of the increasing attention being given to their coal, indeed, many landowners were already being subjected to the pressures of lease brokers, speculators, and coal companies."

Ray, "Reverend Times" of Montana Power Company (MPC). "Their boundaries are smooth and stable, and like the mineral subsoil at the county fair, their concern is always with the customer."

All mineral rights on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation are controlled by the Tribal Council, and on January 15, 1971, the question will arise in the Supreme Court as to whether the original individual land owners have control of these mineral rights. According to Edwin Dahl Jr., of Hardy, tribal liaison officer for coal development, it may take three or four court cases to decide this controversial issue.

Also, the Northern Cheyenne reservation is taking the coal companies to court over who has the rights to say whether the land may be mined—said if the land is to be mined at all.

Most of the reservation sits on top of coal, from 10 to 250 feet veins. At present, no coal is being mined.

Peabody Coal Company, one of three major coal production companies in the world, according to James Rodriguez, 1971, author of "The Last Play" employs 60 people at the small mine seven miles south of Colstrip. Larry Fox, representative of the operation, insists these employees are local residents.

For says, "We've just a little fish in the ocean."

But Ed Miller of Northern Plains Resource Council says "For one reason or another, Peabody Coal doesn't always tell the whole truth."

When asked about plans for already mined lands, Fox spoke of reclamation laws. Peabody, he says, has to post a \$6,000 bond on each mining area, and the land is returned after the land has been cleared up and returned as it was "before the company set eyes on the land." No bond money has been returned, says Fox.

returned, says Fox.

All dirt must be returned from where it was dug, and the land re-vegetated. Fox, however, is not sure how much the cost of this land reclamation.

Yet, speaking with Jim McLaskie of the Bureau of Reclamation in Billings, he says that the cost of these checks.

McLaskie says Gene Tuma, mayor of Forest, and public relations manager of Peabody, are the ones who are checking these checks.

Spe Wills, mining superintendent of Colstrip, told a reporter from a Livingston paper, "You can say that we can't reclaim the land, and we can say we can reclaim the land and neither one of us knows what the hell we're talking about."

There has been some speculation as to whether the reclaimed land will come away within a year or so.

The "Anshelm" states: "The rains average only 15 to 14 inches a year, the topsoil is thin, and the land is not blown or washed away, and the vegetation in most places must struggle for 10 years."

Studies are dubious of success in reclaiming land, and if these study projects prove reclamation a failure, valuable agricultural products and water growth will be lost.

"Reclaimers do not know yet what the hell we're talking about, or whether reclamation is possible. The threat of value seed development needs to be investigated. It should be clear that reclamation is not a highly experimental."

(Continued on Page 1)

"We Must All See Ourselves as Part of This Earth, Not as an Enemy from the Outside Who Tries to Impose His Will on It. We, Who Know the Meaning of the Pip, Without a Living Part of the Earth, We Cannot Harm Any Part of It Without Hurting Ourselves."

— Chief Lame Deer

Montana Historical Society
224 North Roberts
Helena, Mt. 59601



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Thursday, December 19, 1974

Town's Namesake, Chief Lame Deer, Buried in Cairn

Setting sun cast a rose glow over the hills west of Lame Deer, as Wesley Whitman climbed to the sandstone cave in the rimrocks where Chief Lame Deer lies buried.

The Sioux chief for whom the town of Lame Deer is named was killed not far below in 1880 by a U.S. Army detachment under the command of Gen. Nelson Miles.

In the foothills where Lame Deer died, Wesley picked childhood friends—Gowas woad smoked for the spirits, man (sweet) sage and dogs wood, both used in the sundance. Dried cedar limbs on an east hill mark the spot.

The Northern Cheyenne elder told of Miles' soldiers spotting Lame Deer's campfires from "a white hill off toward Colstrip"—all the Sioux were killed.

This was four years before the Cheyenne reservation was established; it was originally known as the Tongue River Agency.

Wesley Whitman, who at age 78 still walks 15 to 30 miles each day, climbed easily to the rimrocks. He has danced in four sundances, twice with Cheyenne painting and twice with bald eagle painting; devout in the old ways, he has also danced the arrow renewal dance.

Nearby, an old dance hall used to stand, site of his parents' graves; of two horses for Wesley at the time of his ear-piercing ceremony; shell casings were stoned thin for earrings, he says.

It was then he was named Mo-ta-na-ko, Black Bear; in Sioux he spells it Ma-to-ta-pa.

Land 'Not Suitable'

The rough terrain of southeastern Montana is unsuitable for the kind of population increase that would be caused by large-scale development. The area's coal resources, a rancher said in remarks prepared for a public hearing in Anshelm.

Ed Maloney, representing the Tri-County Ranchers Association, said development of the townlands through industrialization and urbanization would reduce the crop-producing land base.

His remarks were presented in Anshelm Sunday night at one of a series of state hearings into plans for construction of two 700-megawatt generating plants near Colstrip.

Maloney said that if the state approves the project, "large companies will get that message" and "there will be no stopping them." The result, he said, would be the death of ranching in the Basin-Booker area.



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At The Time PAID 2 Per Copy 15¢
Northern Cheyenne Press
Lame Deer, Montana

Montana Indians Rate Poor

See story on page 14



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224 North Roberts
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A'tome
It Lasts
The
Whole Year!

Greet your loved ones this holiday season with a subscription to *A'tome*, the Northern Cheyenne newspaper which will carry news to them the year around.

Through photographs and feature articles, these few pages will be transported back to the reservation in memory. These mementos will find it valuable to keep informed on many issues.

Send your gift subscription in early. The volume of Christmas mail means your gift may arrive late, otherwise. Clip the gift form below and mail it to us with a check for \$9 for each subscription you want to give. The *A'tome* staff will mail it on to the person of your choice with a personal greeting.

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Today

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Reservation Graves Ransacked

Chief's Graveyard Wasn't Sifted After Disturbed Graves.



See story and photos on page 14

Trouble Heaps on Occupying Mohawks

By Jan Reeves
BIG MOOSE, N.Y. — When a group of Mohawk Indians seized a six-acre wildlife refuge camp near this Adirondack Mountain resort seven months ago and proclaimed it an independent North American State, many local newspapers thought the Indians were going to make and sell blankets and beaded. They forecast an instant tourist attraction.

Today the settlement is dotted with huts and benches, built by the Indians in anticipation of a surge or armed assault by state police, and the encampment has become a replica of Wounded Knee, S.D., where federal authorities and Sioux Indians staged an armed confrontation for 71 days in the spring of 1971.

On arriving from Canada, the Indians proclaimed the site an independent state called Ganishkwin, meaning "Land of the First" in the Mohawk language, and that the 60-acre site was only a base for their claim to eight million acres in New York and Vermont.

They called it the new home of the Six Nations Federation, which includes

the upstate and Canadian tribes of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, Senecas and Tuscaroras. There are approximately 30,000 Mohawk Indians in the United States and Canada.

A civil suit filed by the state to evict the Indians will be heard Dec. 16 in U.S. District Court in Utica about 20 miles to the south, and the Indians are due to respond.

The conflict can be traced to a dispute last year on the Coughawaga Mohawk reservation on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, near Montreal.

Trick chiefs there attempted to evict white persons who had settled on the reservation, and the dispute led to a series of armed clashes with Quebec provincial police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police. In October, 1971, Canadian police surrounded the reservation and withdrew after a month's negotiation had achieved a settlement.

"The ideas was to get back on a reservation for Indian people only, a place where we could have our own heritage, our own language, our own spiritual worship, and our own way of life. This is it," said Kakivikwakon, a 30-year-old Mohawk who acts as spokesman for the encampment.

Police said Stephen Drake, a 30-year-old Indian resident, and his brother, Michael Drake, paid the encampment at high speed about 6:30 p.m., shooting war weapons. There are conflicting accounts of what happened next, the Indians saying the Drake spent fire on them from the car, and the brothers claiming the Indians fired without warning at them.

After reporting the shooting, in which nobody was hit, the Drake drove past the camp. This time a volley of shots came from the camp and Stephen Drake was wounded in the shoulder.

Three hours later, police said, 30-year-old Arden Magon of Geneva, N.Y., was critically wounded in the back when her family's car passed the camp on the way back from vacation.

The Indians claim shots were fired from the Magon car, but police said no weapon was recovered, and paraffin tests showed no sign of shooting from the car.

Kakivikwakon said, "We're very sorry about the little girl, but we have to defend ourselves. What our people were trying to do was stop the cars, not kill anybody."

The Indians claim that it is they, and not the whites who have been the object of attacks. They say that in the days preceding the Drake and Magon shootings, shots were reportedly fired into the camp, and that on Oct. 16, Indian children were injured down by sniper fire while picking berries near the camp.

"On the opening day of hunting season, it seemed to us there was open season on the Indians. They shot that back, and will continue to shoot back."

Kakivikwakon said they have received legal assistance and other help from the American Indian Movement.

Additionally, he said, food and clothing has been brought in by some of the same groups that assisted the Wounded Knee Indians, including the Council of Churches and several Quaker organizations.

The Indians say that, in the event of an attempted eviction, the American Indian Movement will provide as many Indians as needed to defend the area. They say police would be unable to prevent Indians making their way into the encampment through adjacent woods.

Karonskajick, secretary of the Ganishkwin Council of Five, the encampment government, said, "The warriors are completely ready. When it comes to the inevitable, we'll all have to stand up by side. Even the women are learning to handle guns and are taking turns at guard duty."

Sites in former Mohawk territories in upstate New York and Vermont were examined, and Mont Lake agreed upon because it was already equipped with cabins and other facilities and had flat land which the Indians could farm.

The main concentration of settlers arrived at Mont Lake in mid-October about 4 a.m. on May 13, most coming from Quebec reservation or from a reservation at Massena, N.Y. Since then, urban and reservation Indians have arrived from all over the country to join the camp. Indians and they were well received in the village, and that, except for occasional isolated remarks, there were no incidents in the early months.

This tranquility was shattered, however, by two incidents that occurred within a three-hour period on Oct. 26, three days after the start of the bustling season.

Police said Stephen Drake, a 30-year-old Indian resident, and his brother, Michael Drake, paid the encampment at high speed about 6:30 p.m., shooting war weapons. There are conflicting accounts of what happened next, the Indians saying the Drake spent fire on them from the car, and the brothers claiming the Indians fired without warning at them.

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ROAD OVER LAKE DEER-ASHLAND DRIVE IS BACK ON PLATES UNDER SIGN AND SHIELD



CHABLEER ALLEN'S CAN SHAMSH WEST LAKE DEER ICE AND RAIN-SHIRT Conditions Contributed to Accident

Black Ice Calls for Extra Caution

"Black Ice" underlying slush caused at least one accident and police want motorists to watch for treacherous conditions — become treacherous. The black ice is the worst enemy of the winter driver and is still being routed around the state, equipment, however, bridges.

With snow and ice alternating freezing conditions on the Lake Erie toll, in an effort to complete the effort, the state has sent out a crew of about 100 men to clear the toll road.

Police are warning motorists to be alert for black ice, which is still being routed around the state, equipment, however, bridges.

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State PSC Officials Seek to Learn

Two officials agreed to learn how a massive storm on our part if we could get the utility regulations as quickly as possible. He also said a Nevada public service commission would have offered to travel to Montana to discuss utility regulations.

The five Democratic commissioners, who will take office in January, discussed the matter informally with Gov. Thomas L. Judge on Monday.

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GIANT POSTERS FRAMED THIS CRAFT DISPLAY
Girls Are Selling Novel Gifts For Holiday



ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENTS OF PINE CONES AND FRUIT
Crystal Goblets Will Decorate Tables This Year



BAZAR SHOPPERS ENJOY SHOW
Mr. and Mrs. John Higgins

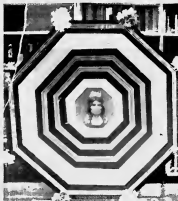
Arts, Crafts Sales Emphasize Unusual

Multi-colored sandles, pine table arrangements, and intricate beadwork are all examples of the craftsmanship of local residents displaying their work at an arts and crafts show and sale presented at the Lane River Library-NYC building. The show is sponsored by the Manpower program and will continue until the end of the year.

Participants display their wares between 6 and 8 p.m., selling such items as silver and turquoise jewelry, molded ceramics, and miniatures for babies.



EXPENSIVE ROACHES SET OFF DISPLAY
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lombard



CHEF'S PORTRAIT IN CERAMIC
Centers This Giant God's Eye

For Clothing You Can Enjoy
That Fit The Season Great
Gift Makers Or Buy
'Em For Yourself



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Winter
Wear!



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FIRST
BIRTH



Nobody Knows,
But The Best
Hunch Wins...

A Service Job On
Your Car: Oil
Changes & Filters, And
A Grease Job

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Ashland Conoco

Be A Winner...

Tell Us The Time The First Baby Will Get
Here. Winner Receives '10 Worth Of Gas.

Always A Winner

With Ford-Mercury Hardin Auto Co.

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Hardin Auto Co.

Aw, come on...
try your luck.
Guess when the
First Baby will
arrive. Anyone
can enter... anyone can win



'15th Dry Cleaning From Miles City Laundry

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Lame Deer IGA

Where Dry Cleaning Is Picked Up.

Your Guess Is As Good As Ours, So Why
Not Take A Chance? Our Prize To The
Winner Is A Beautiful Table Lamp. Drop
This Coupon Off At Lame Deer Furniture
Shack And Look At Our Sale: We
Have LaZBoy Chairs For Only '200* Until
The 1st Of February

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Lame Deer
Furniture Shack

guess when 75's
first baby
arrives... **win** valuable
prize!

Our Prize '15
Worth Of
Merchandise



ESP? If you've got
it, flaunt it! If not,
your guess could be
golden...

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Joe's Trading Post

Ashland

guess when 75's
first baby
arrives... **win** valuable
prize!



What can you
lose? Play your
hunch. It could be
a lucky one.

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Busby Store

guess when 75's
first baby
arrives... **win** valuable
prize!



Got a hunch? If
you guess right,
you get a nice
present from us.

1975 FIRST BABY CONTEST
PREDICT THE FIRST BABY'S ARRIVAL

DATE TIME

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS DEPOSIT THIS COUPON AT

Lame Deer Trading

IGA & V Store

Methodists OK Indians

Indians Americans and the rich head a list of persons the United Methodist church should "accept" and "try to understand."

Communists, atheists and homosexuals are listed among persons the church should "not associate with," according to the results of a survey conducted earlier this year.

Indians Americans were listed as the group persons filling out the questionnaire believed should be the most

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Earl Kelly of Kelly's Gasline
wishes to wish:
Happy Anniversary to
Paul and Veronica Baker
all a very happy birthday
and
WELCOME TO
Kelly's Gasline
Miles City

Torgersen Auto Repair
And Welding
Phone: Diamond-230
Lame Deer, Mont.

Pop & Beer
Also Enjoy Hot
PIZZA
Fun For All in Cadebit
FRONTIER VILLAGE
BILLINGS

Mobil Since 1945
BROWN'S
OIL & GAS
+ Bulk Gas
+ Oil
Call
665-1707
+ Billings Gas
Full Bulk Plant
Facilities

YULETIDE GREETINGS
To our friends and patrons...
we wish you a season full of all
the joys of Christmas.

STOCKMAN CAFE
BAR & LOUNGE
Hardin

'Father Would Wonder'
The ravage of coal mining on the land, superimposed on the Northern Cheyenne reservation, is subject of a poem written by Phyllis LaFevre.

Dedicated to her late father, Robert J. Burns who died Dec. 20, 1962, the words express what Phyllis thinks would be her father's thoughts if he were here today — "you all remember," she says, "his love of wild animals and of his land."

MY LAND
My land means more to me
Than this eye can ever see.
In the hell of this evening,
As the sun goes down, with a glint of red on yonder hill,
My heart beats fast and my love grows stronger,
As I hear the pheasants chirp
And the meadowlark quip.
Mamma Goo hollows land and clear
His time for supper you youngsters.

As I sit here in the quiet,
I try to think and ponder,
Just what it would be like
If coal diggin' starts.
Will the red on yonder hill depart,
To clay knolls, dirt and smoke
Forever here to stay?
You, pheasant, meadowlark and momma.
No longer can I hear.
Oh how this I fear,
Pheasant, meadowlark, be a dear,
And find some other way,
To find energy to light the kulla,
And keep the night bright and clear.

By Phyllis LaFevre

Grow Real Money-Makers with

See Us about lower-cost
High-energy rations....

Custom mixed for you

It costs less to feed the best.

Steady Weight Gains
Get Them to Market
Faster for Profit

CENTRAL FEED CO.

Phone 665-2178

Alternatives to Coal Under Discussion

Developing small and as agricultural production cooperative.

Feasibility of a pig and wood plant and a wood chipping industry were discussed for the last few days in phase two of the Northern Cheyenne Landowners Association economic alternatives workshop.

Bandula, a crisis between buffalo and beef cattle, is another ranching innovation discussed.

Long-term economic development not centered on coal is the objective of these sessions sponsored by the Landowners.

Out-of-view, "science people, landowners and others met Monday night with Dr. Albusa Spang, Bureau of Indian Affairs superintendent in Lame Deer.

Here for the second such workshop was Dr. Stephen Michelson of Cambridge, Mass., economist for the Center for Community and Economic Development.

Others were Elmer Stevens of Washington, D.C.; Dave Harrison of St. Martins, Mass.; Phil and Game Commission; Lee Cummings of Mopola, Forestry; Dave Kerley, local rancher from Baynes, N.D.; and Dan McHenry of Chicago, Peoria and Co-operative Council.

Work groups dealt with reforestation, timber, sodola

Blackfeet Count New Detox Unit a Success

An alcohol detoxification unit, set up in an old barracks, has operated on the Blackfeet reservation "at full capacity since last August. It is operated in conjunction with a halfway house.

Battalion beds are available and each patient is required to stay a minimum of 72 hours. Hospital care is also available.

The treatment consists of three phases — two in detox and the third in the halfway house, where patients are urged to stay 30 days.

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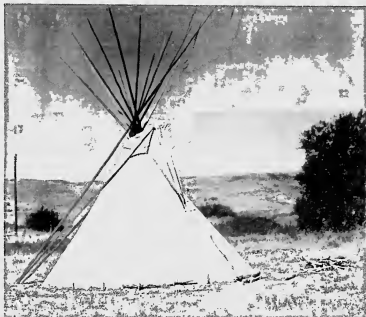
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Sacred Hat Teepee Located on Tongue River

Sacred Hat Teepee of Northern Cheyennes is located along Tongue River south of Hurley, with its new keeper, Joe

Sanderac, keeping vigilance over the historic objects inside.

James Wilson Buried In National Cemetery

James Wilson, 47, was buried Monday in the Custer Battlefield National Cemetery with military honors by the Lame Deer American Legion.

He died Dec. 12 in the Veterans Administration Hospital in Miles City.

Wilson was born Dec. 2, 1927

in Bushy, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James A. Wilson. He attended Bushy School.

He served in the 100th

Schedule For Movies

New Rec. Hall, Lame Deer, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

Admission: Grade school, 50¢; high school, 50¢; adults

50¢; family \$1.00.

Jan. 8 — "Indian Paint"

Jan. 15 — "Bless the Beast

and Children."

Jan. 22 — "Man in the

Wilderness."

Jan. 29 — "Buck and the

Preacher."

Feb. 5 — "Walkabout"

Feb. 12 — "Popcorn."

Feb. 19 — "Duel of the Iron

Fist."

Feb. 26 — "Francis and the

Haunted House."

70 Buffalo Sold

A total of 70 head of buffalo were sold from the herd of over 400 on the National Bison Range at Moleen, Montana, this was eight fewer than last year.

Average price was \$476.92. Highest was \$750 for a three-year-old bull; lowest was \$330 for a yearling bull. Last year's average price was \$499.22.

Infantry in Korea and received his honorable discharge in 1952 at Camp Stoneman, Calif. Since his return from the service, he has employed as various construction jobs on the Northern Cheyenne reservation.

He was married Nov. 11, 1952 to Jessie M. Spang; they made their home in Lame Deer.

Besides his widow, he is survived by six children — Rosella Small of Bushy, Sandra, James, Pamela, James R. and Timothy Wilson, all of Lame Deer; three brothers, William (Curly) of Lame Deer;

George of Kirby; and Peter of Alice Parrish of Sheridan, Lame Deer; four sisters, Mrs. Wyo., and one grandson, Esther Westika and Mrs. Josephine Tall Bull, both of Lame Deer Catholic Church. Surviving with the Mr. Paul Reichling Rowland of Kirby, and Mrs. efficiency.



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Instructor Needed For GED Aid

Opening for a GED instructor for the period from Jan. 1 to June 30, has been announced by Joe Higgins, CETA director.

Applicants, who must have a high school diploma or GED certificate, should have the skills to tutor math, English, writing, spelling, science and social studies. Salary is open.

Application may be made to Higgins at the NYC office in Lame Deer, or to Pat Littlewolf at the Bushy School. Position would be far work in the Lame Deer area.

Bookmobile Days

The Sagebrush bookmobile from Miles City will be in Lame Deer Thursday, Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

It will be at Hurley Day School 1 to 3 p.m., and Hurley 2:30 to 4 p.m. On Friday, it will be at St. Laure 1 to 3 p.m., and at Fort Haves from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

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